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25X1A

AR-4

28 March 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: D/DCI/NIPE

SUBJECT : Quality of Processing of
GIANT SCALE Photography

1. With the material on hand, NPIC cannot make a meaningful assessment of the quality of processing of the GIANT SCALE photography. The reasons for this and some other background are given below.

25X1A 2. The original negative of the photography is developed at [REDACTED]
25X1A [REDACTED] sends three positives to Washington on
25X1A a priority basis--one each to NPIC, IAS, and DIA. The original is
then sent to [REDACTED] where a large number of positives
are made for additional distribution. Because the original is retained
by [REDACTED] NPIC cannot evaluate the processing of the original negative
nor can NPIC compare the print it has with the negative. Furthermore,
NPIC has not received any of the [REDACTED]-generated GIANT SCALE
photography. NPIC reports that it would take two or more weeks to
get access to all the necessary materials and to make a thorough
assessment of the processing of the photography. If NRO intends
to evaluate the processing of GIANT SCALE photography, NPIC
will, of course, participate to the extent required.

25X1A 3. NPIC did have a representative on the NRO group which
inspected the processing facilities and procedures for the BLACK
SHIELD material. Furthermore, NPIC reports that Eastman and
25X1A [REDACTED] both have several technicians at [REDACTED] Both these factors
give NPIC a high confidence in the processing of the GIANT SCALE
photography at [REDACTED] 25X1A

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[REDACTED] 44180-68
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4. In general, the photo interpreters at NPIC feel the GIANT SCALE material is not as good as that from BLACK SHIELD. Even without regard for the narrower swath width of the GIANT SCALE, the interpreters report that the image quality on the GIANT SCALE is significantly less than that of the BLACK SHIELD.

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Assistant Deputy Director for Intelligence

Distribution:

Copies 1 and 2 - Addressee

3 - DDS&T

4 - NPIC/

5 - IRS

6 - ODDI Chrono

7 - ADDI Chrono

8 - ODDI NPIC File

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